The Most Beautiful Name in the World

ARIA

SPECIAL ONE-SHOT

From the fabulous mangaka who drew "Nobara no Hanayome"!

You shed light on me, who had given up on everything.

豊田悠
Yu Toyota

It is the Meiji Era.
Japan's long history of national isolationism was coming to an end and the harbor cities were bustling with foreigners doing business.
During this ostentatious time, inside of a warehouse owned by Kuriyama-ya
Let's see,
EKU-SKU-ZOO-MEE MEESUTAH?
NO, IT'S "EXCUSE ME, MISTER"
is where I Sumida Kogorou dwelled.

Geez, WITH MY TONGUE UP LIKE THIS, SENSEI...?
GOOD GRIEF, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN PEDDLE TO FOREIGNERS SPEAKING LIKE THAT?
I am Kiriyama Hibari's tutor.
WHY IN THE FIRST PLACE IS THE DAUGHTER OF A FABRIC WHOLESELLER PEDDLING GOODS...
Grr.
What?! You are so cruel!
I HAVE NO CHOICE. IF I ACT AFRAID OF FOREIGNERS, THEN NO ONE WILL WANT TO COME TO OUR STORE, SO I HAVE TO LEARN.
Plus, a messy-haired old maid like me also gets a lot of sympathy from the customers.
You are too pitiful

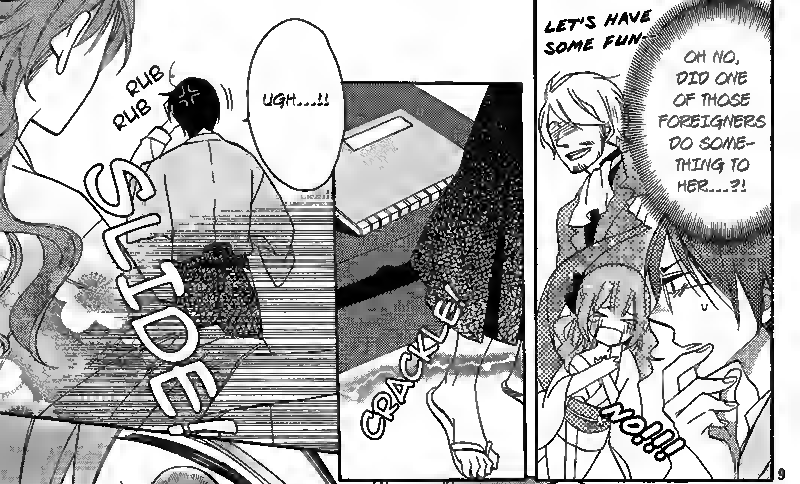
...
glance
HEY...
NO, I'M NOT COMING WITH YOU. It's too much of a bother
FURTHERMORE, ISN'T IT STARTING TO RAIN?
IF I GET WET, I'LL BE DONE FOR.
SLIDE
MISTRESS, YOUR FATHER IS CALLING FOR YOU.
PETTY! MEANIE!!
IT'S THE OLD HOUSE-KEEPER!
YOU'RE IN THIS DARK WAREHOUSE ALONE AGAIN...
PASS
Come on, HURRY UP...
TWIP
Hibari, the owner of the book, is the only one who can see me.

Several decades ago, to facilitate cultural exchange between Japan and foreign countries, I dedicated my life to creating a dictionary
But halfway through, I fell ill and died. Because of the regret I felt, I came to possess my own book
PSS
PSS
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I SEE IT, I CAN'T GET USED TO THAT BIRD'S NEST OF RED HAIR ON HER HEAD.
SHE WAS IN THE WAREHOUSE MUMBLING...IT WAS VERY ODD.
5
2 YEARS AGO
IT'S UNSIGHTLY ...
She is the daughter of a large store owner, but because of her hair, she confines herself within this warehouse.
HOW MANY TIMES CAN YOU BE REJECTED FOR MARRIAGE?! IT'S A DISGRACE!
I'M SORRY, FATHER!!
CLATTER
CLATTER

When I met her, I was possessing a dictionary that was rotting away inside of this warehouse.
OW, OW...
STAY IN HERE FOR A LITTLE WHILE AND COOL YOUR HEAD!!
WHAT'S THAT NOISE...?
SHOVE!
BLACK TEA...
NO, IT'S LIKE A RED RANUNCULUS.

Pardon me
WAH!! A spider web!!
...
Kya!
THERE'S EVEN AN ENGLISH DICTIONARY TO TRANSLATE SHAKESPEARE!!
AMAZING!! A VALUABLE COLLECTION OF BOOKS WAS SLEEPING HERE IN OUR WAREHOUSE!!
Yes,
GETTING IMPRISONED IN A PLACE LIKE THIS IS NO FUN, BUT GETTING LOCKED UP WITH THIS TREASURE IS A DIFFERENT STORY.
IT'S MUCH BETTER THAN A BORING MARRIAGE MEETING...
...DO YOU LIKE BOOKS THAT MUCH?
...MUM?
...I SEE.

That's how we met
I'M BORED. TO KILL TIME, I'LL TEACH YOU.
HUH ...?
SO A MARRIAGE PROPOSAL TO YOU WAS REJECTED, RIGHT?
FIDGET
...SHE'S LATE.
FIDGET
SHE SHOULD HAVE COME HERE BY NOW.


LET'S HAVE SOME FUN~
OH NO, DID ONE OF THOSE FOREIGNERS DO SOMETHING TO HER...?!
No!!!
CRACKLE
UGH...!!
RUB RUB
SLIDE

HIBARI...!
SENSEI!
TEACH ME MORE ENGLISH!!
EVEN IF IT'S JUST A LITTLE, BEFORE THE NEXT TIME I PEDDLE, I WANT TO BE ABLE TO SAY SOMETHING.. PLEASE!!
HIBARI... YOU FINALLY WANT TO LEARN..
Oh, oh, oh...

AT LAST YOU'VE REALIZED THE SPLENDIDNESS OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE THROUGH LANGUAGE. I'VE BEEN LANGUISHING FOR DECADES.
AS SUCH, I WON'T HOLD ANYTHING BACK.
TOUCHED
NO, THAT'S NOT IT, SENSEI.
I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE!!
HUH?
10
HE'S....
LIKE A PRINCE FROM A EUROPEAN NOVEL....
Hey, SENSEI, DO YOU BELIEVE IN DESTINY?

HOW STUPID. FATE IS SO UNSCIENTIFIC ...
I DIDN'T BELIEVE IN IT EITHER
UNTIL I MET HIM....
ALL OF YOUR ITEMS ARE HERE.
11
CRASH!
WHY YOU....
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?!
What!
PEEK!
IS SOMETHING GOING ON?
AN ENGLISHMAN AND A JAPANESE MAN ARE HAVING A HEATED DISCUSSION.
Wait! Listen to me!

I only called your boss by name. Why are you so angry?
ADDRESSING OUR SHOP OWNER WITHOUT USING AN HONORIFIC.... WHAT A RUDE FELLOW!
A COMPLETE SAVAGE... IT'S SHOCKING TO HEAR ENGLISHMEN SPEAK.
YOU SHOULDN'T GET INVOLVED...
DASH!
Excuse me mister!
BLOCK!
...IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'D EVER SEEN SUCH A HANDSOME MAN.

Kya!
This sounds suspicious.
THAT'S HOW IT WENT! BY ALL MEANS I WANT TO BE HIS INTERPRETER SO I CAN BE WITH HIM WHILE HE'S IN JAPAN!
YOUR MISUNDERSTANDING WOULD BE RESOLVED.
IF YOU TWO HAD AN INTERPRETER,
AND?
REGARDLESS, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SPEAK WELL WITHOUT A LOT OF PRACTICE.
BUT...
I have to keep an eye on her.
SINCE THAT'S THE CASE,
FROM NOW ON TAKE ME WITH YOU.

WILLIAM!
HIBARI!
THIS IS THE FELLOW...?
Are you done with work?
Yeah
BURN BURN BURN
WHISH WHISH WHISH
Are you really okay with me showing you around?
Of course!

BLIMP!
WHOOSH!
KYA!
Are you all right? The wind on the harbor is quite strong.
GENTLY
Your hair is pretty. The locks are like feathers.

Until I met you I was having a heck of a time working alongside Japanese people. They're so quiet. It made me feel so crude.
But thanks to you, my stay has become enjoyable.
The first time I met you, your hair gleamed as the sun shone through it
I thought it looked like the color of a camillia.
YOU ARE MY BLUEBIRD!
BLUEBIRD?
...IT'S A WESTERN SYMBOL OF HAPPINESS.
How pretentious

Hebari, What's wrong? Are you cold?
I-I'm fine!
BLUSH!
Hey! What's that?!
Let's see, that's
Don't push yourself!
SHUFF
17
...IT WAS THE FIRST TIME.

SOMEONE PRAISED MY HAIR.
EVEN MY PARENTS SAY IT LOOKS LIKE A BIRD'S NEST AND FROWN IN SHAME.
HE SAID MY HAIR FELT NICE TO TOUCH.
Red hair the color of a ranunculus
Eyes that twinkle like winter's Orion
SENSEI, IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU.
I'M TRULY GRATEFUL.
Lips the color of cherry blossom petals
...HIBARI,
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD DRESSED LIKE THAT.
Countless dazzling words and phrases will be showered upon you,

but what becomes of saying those words?
comparing you to thousands of flowers and stars,
...HIBARI,
I can't touch you with my fingers
nor wrap you with my arms
WORDS ARE MEANINGLESS.

SENSEI,
LISTEN. TODAY WILL AND I WENT TO THE PARASTEIN HOUSE. IT WAS QUITE BEAUTIFUL!
I SEE.
TODAY I WORE A DRESS FROM WILL'S COUNTRY AND TOOK A PROTOGRAPH. LOOK!
...IT DOESN'T SUIT YOU.
HOW MEAN!
TODAY WILL ASKED, "WHY DON'T YOU COME TO GREAT BRITAIN?" HE SAID HE NEEDS ME...
HEY, SENSEI, WHAT SHOULD I...
ARE YOU TAKING THAT JOKE SERIOUSLY AND THINKING YOU'RE GOING SOMEWHERE?
...

Until tomorrow!
...FATHER...?
CLATTER!
HIBARI!
YOU'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGE AND SNEAKING AROUND
BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN ACCOMPANYING SOME FOREIGNER?! YOU'RE A DISGRACE TO THIS FAMILY!!
I'M SORRY!
DON'T LEAVE THIS WAREHOUSE UNTIL I SAY SO!
YOUR STANDING AS AN OLD MAID RUINS THIS FAMILY'S REPUTATION.
CREAK!

GA-CHANK!
FATHER...?
BAM!
FATHER!! LET ME OUT!!
BAM!
MASTER!
DON'T LET HER OUT FOR ANY REASON.
BAM!
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING ...
PLEASE, FATHER....

SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
GULP!
...SAMA,
HIBARI-SAMA,
I WANT TO SEE WILLIAM...
WHO IS IT?
BE QUIET!
I BROUGHT YOU A LETTER FROM WILLIAM-SAMA.
FROM WILL?!
GLOW!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
I'M SURE HE WROTE A LETTER BECAUSE HE'S WORRIED THAT ME HASN'T SEEN ME LATELY!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
I CAN'T READ IT... It's written in cursive...
DOOM!
LET ME SEE IT.
.....
...HEY,
WHAT DOES WILL SAY?
QUIT PUTTING ON AIRS AND TELL ME!
If things stay the same,

and I do nothing, then I can shut her away and she can stay with me forever in this warehouse.
No one will be able to snatch her away from me.
...SENSEI?
To my beloved Hibari,
...TO MY BELOVED HIBARI,"
You haven't come by in several days. What happened? I'm worried.
It's short notice, but my superiors have recalled me and I have to go back to Great Britain.
?!
IT'S SHORT NOTICE. BUT MY SUPERIORS HAVE RECALLED ME AND I HAVE TO GO BACK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

I know suddenly telling you that I need you must have been startling, but if possible, I wish you to come to Great Britain with me.
Tomorrow I will be waiting at the harbor until my ship departs
IT'S REGRETTABLE, BUT I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SEE YOU AGAIN. I WANT YOU TO PLEASE FORGET ABOUT ME AND FIND HAPPINESS.
PARTING WILL BE DIFFICULT, SO PLEASE DON'T COME AFTER ME.
I'LL TELL ANY LIE TO KEEP HER ALL TO MYSELF.
I love you!
FAREWELL.
SHE BELONGS TO ME.
...HIBARI,
DO YOU UNDERSTAND NOW? IN THE END, THAT FOREIGNER WAS JUST PLAYING AROUND WITH YOU.
THAT CAN'T BE....

YOU SHOULD FORGET ALL ABOUT A CAD LIKE HIM....
NO!!
UNTIL I HEAR IT DIRECTLY FROM WILL, I REFUSE TO BELIEVE WHAT YOU'VE READ...
LEAVING WITH ONLY A ONE-PAGE LETTER LIKE THIS HAS TO BE A JOKE.
WHAM!
WHAM!
LET ME OUT!!
27
STOP IT!!
SENSEI...?
CALM DOWN AND THINK ABOUT IT. HOW WILL YOU BE HAPPY IN THE FUTURE WITH THAT MAN?
IN GREAT BRITAIN, A JAPANESE PERSON'S SOCIAL STATUS IS STILL LOW. YOU'LL BE MISERABLE.

I DON'T WANT YOU TO BE...
HE'S THE FIRST PERSON WHO RECOGNIZED ME FOR ME.
I'VE NEVER MET A STUDIOUS GIRL LIKE YOU BEFORE.
IF MY WISH COMES TRUE, I WANT TO SHOW YOU MANY MORE COUNTRIES....
I'LL BE HAPPY.
I LOVE HIM.
I LOVE HIM...
STING...

I COULDN'T LEAVE ANYTHING BEHIND.
COULD I?
I thought death was the end.
I thought because of my lingering attachment to the dictionary,
I was going to stay inside this warehouse and decay.
HIBARI...

But then
I met you.
TO KILL SOME TIME, I'LL TEACH YOU.
...THEN TODAY WILL BE A REHEARSAL FOR TOMORROW.
"ME", "EYES"
EYES
"KUCHIBIRU", "LIPS"
The words I'm teaching you
LIPS
"TE", "HAND"
BEACH

Will live inside you and connect us.
HAND
Have I somehow been saved?
UNTIL NOW I'VE BEEN A DISGRACE TO MY FAMILY.
BUT THANKS TO YOU, I LEARNED ENGLISH AND FOR THE FIRST TIME I FELT HELPFUL.
I OWE IT ALL TO YOU.
...SENSEI

THANK YOU, SENSEI!!
I'M SURE YOU HAVE NO IDEA.
...
MISTRESS, I'VE BROUGHT YOUR DINNER.
splash!
splash!
splash!
MISTRESS?

WISH
WILL, WAIT!!
PLIP!
WILL!!
WILL, CAN'T YOU HEAR ME?!
33
sniffle...
WILL...!
splish

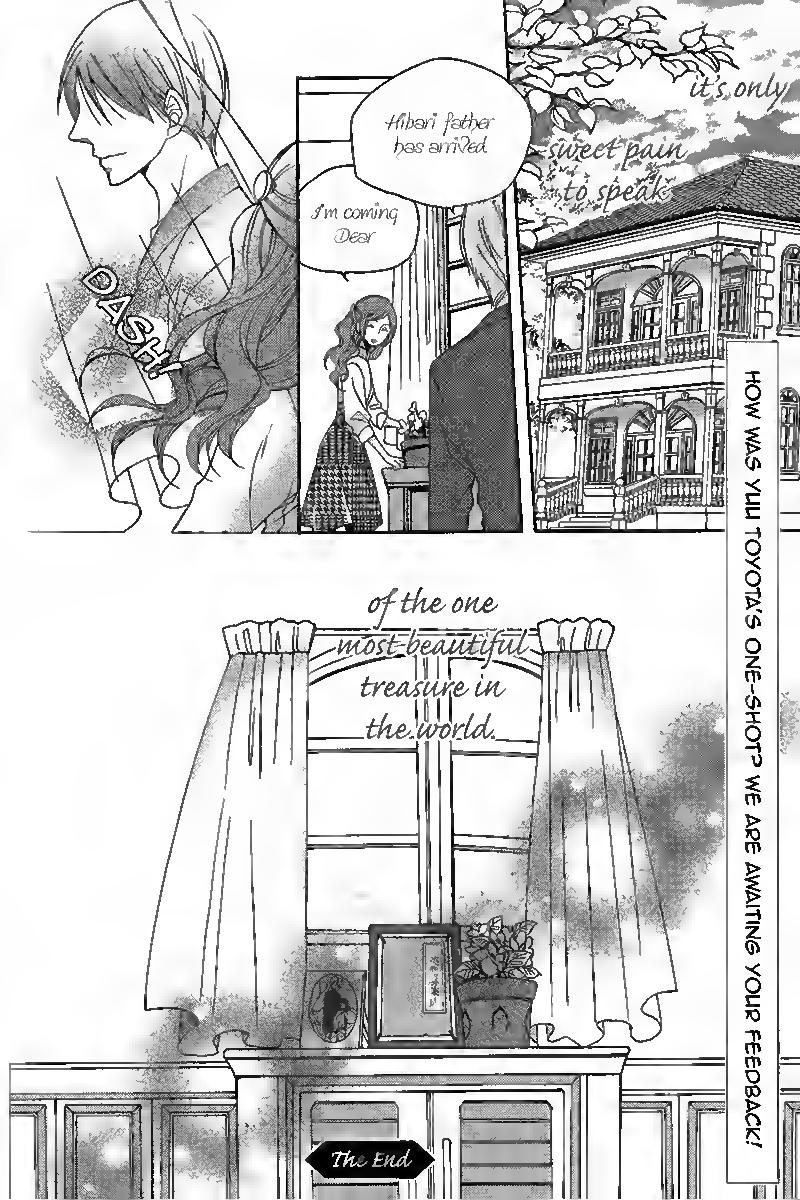
HUH?
EVEN NOW ...AT A TIME LIKE THIS YOU'RE BEING CRUEL TO ME....
...YOU
REALLY ARE FOOLISH, AREN'T YOU?
I've gathered as many words

as there are stars. But up until now,
THIS IS MY LAST BIT OF CRUELTY.
PREPARE YOURSELF.
SENSEI?
PLEASE BE HAPPY.
MY HIBARI.
no word has been as beautiful as your name.

I
didn't
know

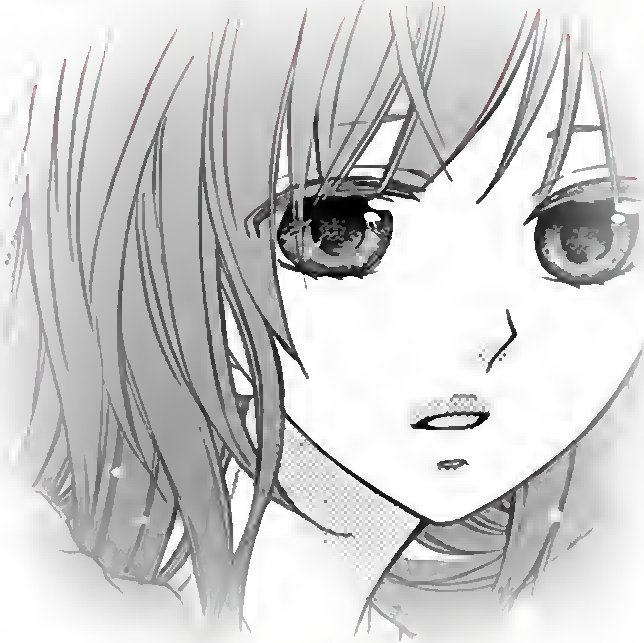
FLUTTER...
What's this?
Is this a dictionary?
The pages are flying from the harbor!
Hibari?!
FLUTTER
FLUTTER

Return the boat to the harbor!!
What?! Why...?
Just do it! Hurry!!
RUSH


it's only sweet pain to speak
Hiberi father has arrived
I'm coming Dear
DASH!
of the one most beautiful treasure in the world.
The End.

HOW WAS YUU TOYOTA'S ONE-SHOT? WE ARE AWAITING YOUR FEEDBACK!

Omari's Sister's Translations



Translation and English Adaptation: Kuroneko003
Cleaning and Redrawing: Kayori & Kumiko
Final Image Editing and Lettering: Kuroneko003
Proofreading & QC: Kotomi & Claire Beebuzz

Please do not upload to any manga aggregator sites.

Please support the artist and the distributor by purchasing the manga if it becomes licensed and available in your country.

This one-shot appeared in the April 2012 issue of Aria Japanese language magazine.